

19th August 1925]

Progress made in the preparation of the Tamil Lexicon.

* 84 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state the progress so far made in the preparation of the Tamil Lexicon and when it is likely to be published?

A.—The hon. Member's attention is invited to the half-yearly progress reports submitted by the Tamil Lexicon Committee. The latest reports are contained in G.O. No. 714, Law (Education), dated the 6th May 1925, placed on the Editors' Table. The Government have no definite information as to when the Lexicon will be completed.

High schools in the Presidency aided by Government in certain ways.

* 85 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the high schools in the Presidency, the net cost of which is borne by the Government, the proportion of the cost so borne, and the scale of pay of the headmasters in the concerned institutions respectively;

(b) whether the municipal high schools at Bellary, Hospet and Adoni and the board schools at Harpanahalli, Penukonda and Nandalur are such net cost schools;

(c) whether the scale of pay of the headmasters of Bellary, Hospet and Harpanahalli is fixed at Rs. 125—5—150 and that of the headmasters of Nandalur and Adoni at Rs. 150—5—175 and that of the headmaster at Penukonda at Rs. 150—10—200 and, if so, the reasons for the variations in the scales in the several cases;

(d) whether the scale of pay of the first assistant in the school at Hospet is fixed at Rs. 90—100, at Bellary and Harpanahalli at Rs. 90—110, at Adoni at Rs. 100—120 and at Penukonda and Nandalur at Rs. 100—125 and, if so, the reasons for the variations in scale in the different schools;

(e) whether the scale of pay of the second assistant in the schools of Bellary, Hospet and Harpanahalli is fixed at Rs. 80—100, in Penukonda and Adoni at Rs. 90—110, and in Nandalur at Rs. 90—2—120 and, if so, the reasons for the difference in scales of the said schools; and

(f) whether the scale of pay of the third assistant of the schools at Bellary, Hospet, Harpanahalli, Penukonda and Adoni is fixed at Rs. 80—100 and in Nandalur at Rs. 90—120 and, if so, the reasons for the difference in the respective scales of pay?

A.—(a) A statement is laid on the table.*

(b) Yes.

(c), (d), (e) & (f) The answer is in the affirmative except in respect of the municipal high school, Hospet, and in the case of second assistant, Nandalur, where the increment is Rs. 3 annually. The scales of pay vary according to local conditions and the particular circumstances of the school.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—“A reference to the appendix to the question will show that the scales of pay vary. It is said that the ‘scales

* Printed as Appendix I on pages 255–256 infra.

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of pay vary according to local conditions and the particular circumstances of the school. In my own district, there are headmasters who get only Rs. 125, there are others whose pay goes up to Rs. 150 and others again whose pay goes up to Rs. 175, and in the neighbouring district the pay is Rs. 200. It does not seem that the variation is on any satisfactory basis. I request the hon. the Minister to see and bring about a uniform scale in districts which are really similar. I should like to know whether this matter is engaging the consideration of the hon. the Minister."

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—“The matter was considered some time back, and again it was carefully examined on receipt of the question from the hon. Member. The difficulty is that in certain districts and certain areas, there is a paucity of qualified teachers. In such cases we have to fix a standard different from the one where very many graduates are available, and so a uniform standard cannot be applied to every district. For instance, in the Ceded districts we have to apply a different standard from the one applicable to the districts of Tanjore, Trichinopoly or Madura.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“That is my point also. I only want that in the same class of districts there should be some uniform rate. For example in the Ceded district itself there are different grades. In the Bellary district there are different scales for which there appears to be no justification. The same is the case in Anantapur and other districts.”

The Headmaster of the Municipal High School at Adoni.

* 86 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have lent the services of any of their officers to act as headmaster of the Municipal High School at Adoni from 1922;

(b) whether the Government in the beginning were defraying the cost of the contribution that had to be made towards his pension; and

(c) whether they have since asked the municipality to bear that cost and, if so, the reasons for the change in the policy of the Government?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) The Government as a special case and in view of the unsatisfactory financial condition of the municipality authorized the inclusion of the extra cost to municipal funds on account of the employment of M.R.Ry. B. A. Kameswara Rao in the net cost of the school which was to be met from provincial funds. This concession was limited to the two years, 1921–22 and 1922–23. It is not usual for Government to bear the leave and pensionary charges of officers who are transferred to foreign service.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“May I know whether, as the same teacher continues there the Government will be pleased to continue to bear the pensionary contribution as they have been doing so long?”

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—“The answer is already given there and I am not in a position to add anything more to it.”